

Appl. No. 10/054,224
Amdt. Dated 06/24/04
Reply to Office Action of Mar. 30, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 4-6 have been added.

The specification has been amended to insert the correct statutory citation for a priority claim.

Claims 1-3 have been rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 1-3 have further been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over GB 2,265,918 in view of Blanchette, U.S. Patent No. 5,055,159. However, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-3 would be allowable over the art of record if amended to include means plus function terminology.

Claims 1-3 have been canceled without prejudice and new claims 4-6 have been added to more clearly define the invention. In particular, claims 4-6 have been written in means plus

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function format.

The applicants believe that the remaining claims, 4 6, are written to overcome the rejections of the Examiner. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request early allowance of the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission to the U.S.P.T.O. to Patent Examiner Steve Alvo, Group No. 1731, to 703 872 9310 on June 24, 2004.

Elizabeth Collard Richter

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